



The

GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

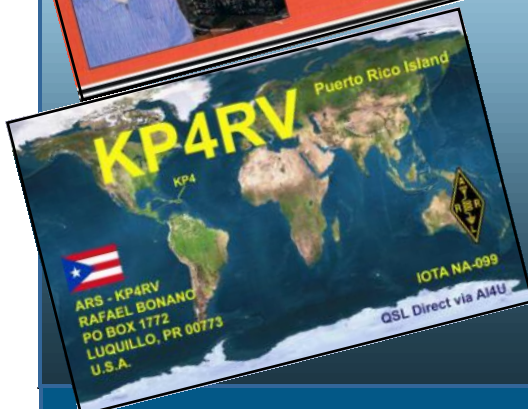
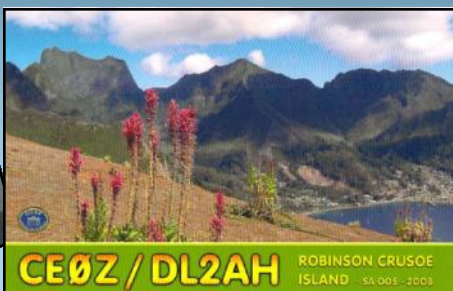
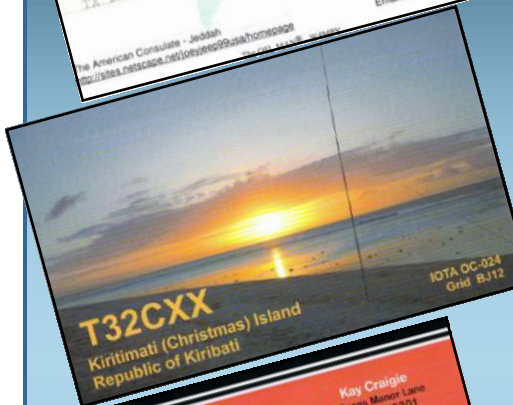
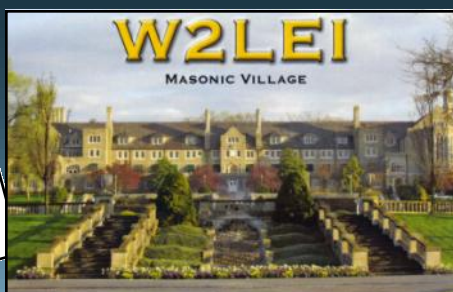
April 2014

<http://www.gars.org/>

Volume 23, Issue 4



QSL Cards Around The World



Do YOU QSL?

Message from the President

Spring is springing. The Georgia QSO Party is around the corner, May Madness is upon us, the Dacula Memorial Day Parade is coming, and Field Day planning is in full swing! We are just getting started in this fun year and I hope all of you who are able will participate.



GARS needs help from all its members to keep momentum up and maintain a world class club. You don't have to participate in every event to be helpful but please volunteer and help spread the load.

Special thanks goes out to John, WB4QDX and Ralph, KJ4CNC and VE team who participated in yet another GARS Ham Cram on March 29th. We have added 8 more Technicians to the Amateur operator ranks and hopefully many of them will become GARS members. One of our most important charters is to promote the Amateur Radio hobby and this club does a great job with that, thanks to our volunteers.

I can't stop mentioning it... "2014 Dayton Hamvention Club of the Year"! The tag line will feature prominently on our 2014 Field Day T-shirts. Don't forget to order yours on the <http://gars.org> web page. It looks like we are going to have quite a crowd showing up in Dayton with red shirts this year. If you have not made your travel plans and want to go, get your info on the email reflector. You can probably find a partner to share a ride, a room, or just some good information on travel and lodging. We will be doing an interview on "Ham Nation" so that should be a lot of fun.

Thanks again for all your hard work to make GARS Great!

73s,

Rick, N4XYX

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the Class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS March Meeting

“Repeater and HF Etiquette”

by Mike Weathers, ND4V and Mike Smith, KK4KHS

Tuesday April 8, 2014

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.
(except December)

at

Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1

690 Airport Road

Lawrenceville, GA 30045

We had an excellent Ham Cram Exam session Saturday 3/29/14. 8 out of 8 applicants passed.

Way to go John, WB4QDX and Ralph, KJ4CNC!!!

Ham exam session results: 8 new Technicians

Thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| - Dave Bruse, W4DTR (CVE) | - John David, WB4QDX |
| - Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN | - Karen Whited, KJ4VQI |
| - Brian Jones, KD4UYP | - Larry Whited, WB4FGF |
| - Don Bagby, KK4NJM (Co-CVE) | - Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC (Co-CVE)H |
| - Frank Haynes, KV4SP | - Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC |
| - Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE) | - Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF |

Thanks & 73, Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org



Certificate being presented to Chris Balch - KS4MM (left)
for his excellent program at our March meeting.

GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater
147.075(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone

APRS
144.390 -- 1200 Baud
W4GR

D-Star
WD4STR
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)
440.550 + (5 MHz)

Main Repeater Site
Oak Street,
Lawrenceville

2 Meter Repeater
147.255(+) MHz
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater
53.110 (-1 MHz)
82.5 PL Tone

70 Cm Repeaters
444.525(+) MHz
82.5 PL Tone
442.100(+)
82.5 PL Tone

Backup Repeater Site
Lanier Mountain,

Coming Events

The Georgia QSO Party



GARS does the Georgia QSO Party!

Come join us!

Saturday April 12, 2014 11AM-6PM EDT
&

Sunday April 13, 2014 11AM-6PM EDT

Where: Harbins Park, 2995 Luke Edwards Road, Dacula, The Lat/Lon are: 33.910833N / 83.852608W

NEW LOCATION: This will be the same location where we will have the 2014 Field Day, except instead of using the pavilion, we are using the big field "behind the restrooms".

Come out and have fun operating with us.

We plan to have at least two stations on the air during the posted times.

If we have enough operators we will put on a third station.

We will set up some EZ Up type tents. Lunch will be served.

For ARES members, operating at this event counts as a field event toward maintaining your deployable status.

For all, it should be a good time.

Make sure to bring your own lawn chair.

For directions to the park, go to the GARS website and enter your location. <http://gars.org>

More about GQP on www.GeorgiaQSOparty.org

See the following:

Rules

GQP Awards

FAQ

Keeping An Open Mind

I was listening the other night on 80 meters to a group of hams talking about how a new mode of communications was going to destroy the hobby we all know and love the mode was DSTAR HF.

With introduction of some new equipment Icom has opened the door to a new form of HF communications and it has generated a lot of new activity on the bands. There is a DSTAR International HF net that meets on air using DSTAR VHF and UHF for coordination while attempting to make HF contacts on frequencies announced by the NCS and they are having a bunch of fun doing it.

I have read a lot of ham radio history and there is one recurring theme throughout that history and it goes like this...

First there was silence in the air and all was observed to be good...

Then along came the Spark Gap transmitter and the world was changed with warnings that all that *sparkin* was bound to be bad for us and mankind would suffer because of it.

After a while *sparkin* became common place and the hams of the day were happy.....

Then along came AM and you could talk on the radio and the old CW guys pronounced the death of the hobby as they knew it. Nothing good to be had in AM they said.....

After a while the Hams of the time learned to get along and tolerate each other at least in public anyway and all was well in the world.....

Then along came SSB communications and the CW and AM guys joined hand in hand to announce the end of Ham Radio as they knew it and that the hobby would surely perish as a result.....

After a while the CW, AM and SSB operators learned to get along and share the bands and all was again good in the world.....

Then you guessed it the *DIGITAL MODES* came along and again the end of ham radio was predicted and expounded upon at great length. Then with time the CW, AM, SSB and now digital operators learned to get along and share the bands and again all was good in the ham world....

What do you think fellow hams? Will DSTAR HF really be the death of the band as reported or will the greatness of what is Ham Radio allow all to enjoy the hobby we all love?

I know the answer. Do you?

73's and Happy DX,

de *Phil*, N4LNE

Hex Beam Blooms in Springtime

I'm a relatively new ham, first licensed about 6 months ago. And I have been bitten rather hard by the DX and Contesting "bugs". As a result, my home brewed fan dipole just wasn't quite doing the trick—I "needed" a beam antenna.

Since I rent the house I live in, putting up a tower was pretty much out of the question and the yagi and the moxon pretty much need a stout tower beneath them. And then I saw the hexagonal beam. It was love at first sight! The fact that it can sit atop a modest pushup mast made it that much more attractive.

I shopped around and found one made by Roger Rockwell (NA4RR) in Pensacola, FL that was a "plug-n-play" kit and also one of the least expensive ones on the market.

I order it, assembled it, and then started to consider how I was going to get it up onto the mast, etc. One of my biggest handicaps when it comes to antennas is a fear of heights (acrophobia to those of you who are more technically minded). So I put out a call for assistance.

Nick (KK4TPW), who I have worked with before on another's antenna project; and Ashley (K4ASH) volunteered. We had scheduled the work party for Sunday afternoon. But the weatherman was predicting a bit of rain and as I mentioned to Ashley, wet roofs and ladders does not make for safe footing.

But Mother Nature smiled at us and parted the clouds as they approached Lawrenceville and sky turned blue—I we stayed dry!

Nick came up with good way to attach the antenna to the mast and then raise it to vertical. Then he and Ashley got on the roof, stood at the very edge as I perched on a ladder—we managed to lift the mast skyward and get it locked down.

We did have a few little snags along the way—a rotor wire that had been completely pulled loose, one of the cords on top of the antenna had come loose, a rather extensive and futile search for a bolt hole--just typical "snafus" and ultimately handled. But we did manage to get the antenna up without damaging either our bodies or the landlady's shrubbery. Mission Accomplished!

Neal Gilchrist, W4HNG

P.S. My first contact was with Slovenia!



80 Meter Antenna Party

**GARS member are responsible for another
“Wire In The Sky”.**

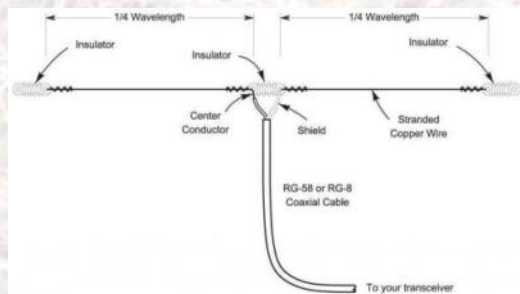
Not long ago we went to Sam, AB4HZ's to install an 80 meter Off Center Fed antenna. I think it's about 130 ft long, end to end. It's up fairly high and looks good. Bill WB4WTN, Rich K4KME, Sam AB4HZ, Greg KK4GWG and me WA4ZXV helped.

It took several shots with the spud gun to get where we needed to be in one of the trees. When the line broke and Bill went to find the tennis ball back in the woods he found a bunch of baseballs. Seems the neighbor has a batting cage and I guess in the summer the woods are too dense to look for the balls. It took us a while, but we got to tell a tale or two while working. I don't think we ever got two HTs on the same frequency, which would have saved a few steps, but we all needed the exercise.

We have a great bunch of folks willing to help with antennas, especially the ones you can put up without getting off the ground. And there are a few that don't mind climbing on the roof. And there are, of course, even fewer that will climb a tower. So if you need some help, just ask and we'll try to find someone. Tower climbers are much harder to come across than ground crews.

73,

Norm, WA4ZXV



Beginner's Corner

By David Harden, KJ4CMY

Alinco Radios for Beginners

We have been looking at different Handy Talkies (HTs) for the New Ham. This month, we'll visit Alinco. The least expensive dual-band by Alinco is the DJ-V57T. I contacted GigaParts for information. Shelley - KK4VST, writes, "They are very easy to afford for new hams, they are currently \$129.00 on our website for example." A lot of the other dual-band radios are above the \$200 mark. Alinco radios, despite how hard they are to locate at times, are very easy to understand radios and don't have a lot of "hidden" settings like some of the Yaesu handhelds do. In the same sense though because they do not have that complexity to them, they generally do not offer as many features. My personal opinion is that it's not a bad thing because then you will not be distracted by the bells and whistles so to speak, but will really learn how to best utilize the radio for its functions and just have a good time with the basics!"



We have talked about some *new* handy-talkie (HT) radios. Now, let's look at how to buy *used* equipment.

I keep looking for used equipment. Buying from a ham in the area is a good idea, because you can test out the radio before you buy it. Also, if there is a problem, you have someone to go back to after the sale. Most hams are reputable. Check at GARS or other club meetings. Also, many clubs have a Yahoo group or a "reflector" where hams post items to sell. Also, check the weekly "GARS Want Sell or Swap Net" on Monday evenings. They occasionally have items for sale. Also, you can ask if anyone has or knows of equipment for sale.

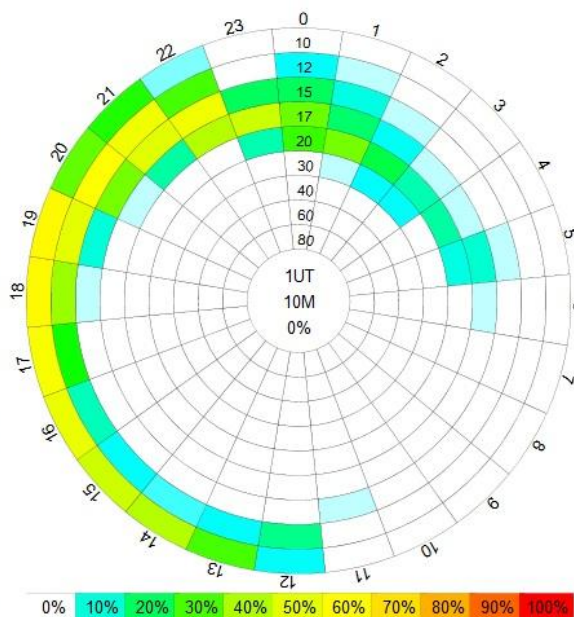
Buying a radio at a hamfest will give you a chance to try it before you buy, as well. Be cautious when buying from eBay or other auction sites. Check the seller's reputation. It is much harder to return a bad radio if the seller is unreliable, or lives hundreds of miles away. Some dealers have trade-ins. You might be able to spot a bargain or two.

73 de *David*, KJ4CMY

VOACAP Online

<http://www.voacap.com/prediction.html>

VOACAP Online



TX to RX: 14965 km, 9299 mi, 86 °

Date
Year: 2014 Month: March
SSN:

Note: VOACAP Online knows about the correct SSN values. Therefore DO NOT set any value to SSN, unless you want to experiment.

After you have entered a value in any of the fields, press the TAB key instead of ENTER.

Transmitter Site
QTH: << Select a location >>
Name: EM84ab
Latitude: 34.0630 [-90..90]
Longitude: -83.9580 [-180..180]
TX antenna: Dipole @ 10M (33ft)
TX power: 100 W
TX mode: SSB
Specials:
Current point:

Receiver Site
QTH: << Select a location >>
Name: LG39hq
Latitude: -20.3034 [-90..90]
Longitude: 46.6484 [-180..180]
RX antenna: Dipole @ 10M (33ft)

The circular chart above shows predictions for all HF amateur radio bands. Hover the mouse over the chart for details. For predictions with more frequency coverage, click the "Run prediction!" button.

I want to share this fantastic propagation forecasting tool with you. My first experience with it was very exciting. As a result of using this site on the web, I was able to make a contact with ZD8NW on Ascension Island, off the western coast of Africa. I had moved/set the Red marker to my home location (EM84ab) and changed the TX mode to SSB. Then I moved the Blue marker to the south end of Africa and immediately the circular chart on the right updated to show me the propagation that was forecast for that day. I pointed the beam to 86 degrees (see info right below map). If you click on the link at the top of this page, you will be able to see how it works. In the example above, the best band and time to reach Madagascar is 10 Meters at 2100Z. The day I got Madagascar, 15 meters at 1700Z was the best. Since then I have used this website to make many successful DX QSO's. I hope it works well for you.

Happy DX'ing!

Ray, N4GYN

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in March

Antoinette Bigham (KK4WOB)
Raymond Elliott (KK4WOD)
Russell Gibbs (KK4YHH)
Kevin Highsmith (KK4WOG)
James Knight (KK4JJB)
Jake Paul Pannell (K4XRA)

New Members: 6

**Total Members as of April 1, 2014
- 270-**

Join us for our weekly breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays at:
Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
([Directions](#))

Also, before our Tuesday meeting you are
invited to join other GARS members and guests
dining at:
The Flying Machine (starting about 5:30 PM)
510 Briscoe Blvd. NE
Lawrenceville, GA
([Directions](#))

**The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in April:**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS

Robert Arp (KV4QN)
James Boyd (KJ4YN)
Paul Branson (KA4YZR)
Doris Brown
Charles Burts (K4CHB)
Scott Deitchman (WB8ICQ)
Anna Dominguez (KF4UOC)
Dozier Griffith (WA4DEO)
Peter McDade (KK4WEP)
Stan McDonald (KI4H)
Michael Parrott (N4MEP)
Collin Pike (KJ4AXB)
Keith Wells (KK4SQI)

**MAY MADNESS
IS COMING!**

FUN FUN FUN!

Read about it on page 15.

GARS MEMBERSHIP

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),
please email the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chairman: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP

Committee Members: Richard Atkin, KJ4ZTY.

Net Managers Corner

Hello everyone, from N4LNE, GARS Net Manager.

GARS NEEDS YOUR HELP

GARS is a great amateur radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. We need weekly participation to make our net function and to keep them interesting. We have a very small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week but we need more help.

Out of over 250 members we have only six primary people that run every Monday Night Net. In no particular order they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV
Hal - W4IGE
Ray - N4GYN
Sandy - KJ4DRO
John - WB4QDX
Bill - KK4AUA

I need 40 people to fill NCS and ANCS positions. The schedule is planned and posted months in advance and is flexible. If your plans change we can and do make adjustments to make it work, and I make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. I also send out reminders each week to let you know you are scheduled for the next Monday night net. In short we make it simple. All you need to do is show up, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at the monthly GARS meeting or by sending me a message via the [Mentors & Elmers](#) page on the web site at www.gars.org. Signup to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73'

See you on the Nets!

Phil, N4LNE
Net Manager



Upcoming TOPICS for the "KNOW IT ALL" Net Thursday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm

Apr-02 Mobile Operation
Apr-09 Radios
Apr-16 Getting On The Air
Apr-23 Ham FAQ
Apr-30 Audio

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a "KNOW IT ALL".

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 147.075 +, PL 82.5

6m 53.110 - No Tone

70cm 442.100 + PL 100.0

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

(All names of contests are Links in .pdf version)

June

14-16 [June VHF](#)

15 [Kids Day](#)

28-29 [Field Day](#)

July

12-13 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August

2-3 [August UHF](#)

16-17 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)

17 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)



[June VHF](#)

For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada.

Stations in KH0-9, KL7 & KP1-KP5, CY9 and CY0 count as W/VE stations and can be worked by DX stations for contest credit.

[About Kids Day](#)

Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grand-kids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public!

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.

[Field Day is part educational event, part operating event, part public relations event – and ALL about FUN!](#)

[Objective:](#)

To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within IARU Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeast US

04/12/2014 | [Mobile Hamfest](#)

Location: Mobile, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mobile Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w4iax.net>

04/26/2014 | [Calhoun Hamfest](#)

Location: Sugar Valley, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.k4woc.com>

04/26/2014 | [Wiregrass ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Headland, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wiregrass Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://wb4zpi.org>

06/07/2014 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Marietta, GA

Type: ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval

Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) & Kenneshooschee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)

Website: <http://www.atlantahamfest.org>

07/26/2014 | [Cullman ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Cullman, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cullman Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://cullmanarc.webs.com/>

08/16/2014 | [Southeastern Division Convention \(Huntsville Hamfest\) - "REGIONAL ARRL CENTENNIAL EVENT"](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Huntsville Hamfest Association

Website: <http://www.hamfest.org>

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,
Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
 Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
 Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
 Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◇ *Camping*
- ◇ *Hiking*
- ◇ *Horseback Riding*
- ◇ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Jeff Lee, AF4JL


















Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165




Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, President	N4XYX	
Mike Weathers, Vice President	ND4V	
Allison Lynch, Secretary	KZ3JFY	
Sid Weaver, Treasurer	N4NQ	
Mike Smith, Program Manager	KK4KHS	
Karen Albritton Membership Chairman	KI4HPP	
Dave Bruse, Ham Exam Team Leader	W4DTR	
David Adcock, Webmaster, Field Day Chairman	KA4KKF	
Dorothy Jubon, Public Information Officer	N2DLJ	
Ralph Pickwick TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr	KJ4CNC	
Ray Bailey, GARzette Editor	N4GYN	
Jeff Cutchins Multimedia Chairman	AB4HF	
John Ackermann, W4GR Trustee	N8UR	
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chairman	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers, WAS-Checker, Historian	ND4V	
Phil McCleary, Net Manager, ELMER Chair	N4LNE	
Mike Swiderski, Technical Advisor	K4HBI	

ADVISORS

Kyle Albritton	W4KDA	
David Adcock	KA4KKF	
Norm Schklar	WA4ZXV	

Did you Know?

If you have worked 60 meters before, but it has been quite a while since the last QSO, be aware that they changed the frequency of the 3rd channel. Here are the frequencies:

Channel 1: 5330.5 kHz

Channel 2: 5346.5 kHz

Channel 3: 5357.0 kHz

Channel 4: 5371.5 kHz

Channel 5: 5403.5 kHz

For more information about new power settings, etc. go to <http://www.arrl.org/60m-channel-allocation>.

Voice of Russia to Go Dark After All

The Voice of Russia, formerly known as "Radio Moscow", will end its shortwave broadcasts Tuesday, April 1. After contradictory announcements and reports last December, it appears the international broadcaster is indeed pulling the plug on its HF transmissions.

Effective December 9, as a result of a decree signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Voice of Russia radio company officially ceased to exist and merged with several other state-run news agencies as part of *Rossia Segodnya*, a Russia-based international news service. From the 1950s through the 1980s, the station, as Radio Moscow, was a virtual beacon for short-wave listeners (SWLs), many of whom gravitated into Amateur Radio.

GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 8 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ◆ Every Thursday at 9 pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters

Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2014

- Rick Cobb, N4XYY, introduced himself as GARS' new President and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Earl Whatley, AF4FG, announced that there are a few pins left of Dayton Hamvention Club of the Year. See him if you need one.
- First time visitors were recognized and introductions were made of all attendees.
- Steve Back, WB2OGY, is looking for 14 – 21 year olds for JOTA.
- Sid Weaver, N4NQ, gave the treasurers report.
- Karen Albritton, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS now has 269 members.
- Mike Smith, KK4KHS, announced that the April program will be on Repeater Etiquette by Karl Phillips, K4GZZ. Also, David Adcock, KA4KKF, will talk about Field Day.
- Upcoming events were announced:
 - ① HamCram will be on March 29th at Gwinnett EOC. Sign up on GARS website.
 - ① Georgia QSO Party will be on Apr 12th and 13th at Harbins Park. Food will be provided. An HF station is needed. Contact Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, with questions.
 - ① May Madness will take place from Friday, May 2nd through Sunday, May 11th. GARS members make contact with GARS members. Top 10 in points get a hat. More details to come at the April meeting.
 - ① Hal Collier, W4IGE, announced that Satellites in the Park will be on May 3rd at Bogan Park.
 - ① The Memorial Day Parade is on May 26th. This is a half-day event at which GARS marshals the parade. Everyone needs to arrive at 7:30 a.m. and will be finished at noon. If you have an HT, bring it with you. Biscuits will be there for breakfast. A GARS member SK who was in the armed services and has passed away since last year will be honored at the parade. Give nominations to Earl Whatley.
 - ① Field Day is June 28th and 29th at Harbins Park. Food will be provided. The June GARS meeting will be an ice cream social at Harbins Park.
 - ① Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, announced that the Atlanta Science Festival Expo on Saturday, March 29th from 11:00 – 4:00 at Centennial Park.
- Break
 - Program: "Towers Make a Difference" by Chris Balch, KS4MM. Chris talked about "What the government thinks about your amateur radio tower".
 - Drawings for prizes.
- There were 76 attendees.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Allison Lynch, KZ3JFY, Secretary

MAY MADNESS 2014

The third annual GARS May Madness contest (for GARS members only) starts **May 2nd** at 6:00 PM and ends **May 11th** at 11:59 PM. The purpose of the contest is to get to know other GARS members - especially new members – and perhaps learn a new mode such as PSK 31 and maybe earn a prize.

The rules are almost the same this year as last. You can make contacts with other club members on any frequency available to technician class licensees including contacts on a repeater. The exchange is just your call sign and OM for old members or NM for new members. A new member is anyone who has joined since May 1, 2013. A contact with a new member gives you an extra point.

If you don't have the equipment or expertise to operate HF or any digital mode you can **partner with someone** who does and both of you will score points at the same time.

We did tweak the rules regarding the net control on May 5th. Last year the net control scored a point for every GARS member that checked in. Net control can't do that this year, but he can arrange a sked after the net with any who are willing. You can also spot yourself on the Yahoo group and let everyone know when and where you are available.

Those with the top 10 scores will receive a unique GARS hat and all who turn in a log will receive a GARS patch or GARS decal. The overall winner will receive a special prize!

The rules and a sample log are on the web site. <http://gars.org> The log is a simple Excel spread sheet but there are no formulas included. Those will be added when the log is returned. **C U down the log. Have fun!**

Earl, AF4FG

GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS APRIL 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	1 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	2 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	3	4	5 7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	6
7 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	8 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Dinner at Flying Machine 7:00pm - 9:00pm GARS Meeting	9 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	10	11	12 GA QSO Party 1800Z - 0359Z Brkfst @ Golden Corral	13 GA QSO Party 1400Z - 2359Z
14 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	15	16 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	17	18	19 7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	20
21 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	22	23 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	24	25	26 7:30 am - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	27
28 8:00 pm - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	29	30				

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) WCARS VEC Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) WCARS VEC Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months ARRL VEC 8:30 a.m. Stone Mountain Methodist Church 5312 West Mountain St. Stone Mountain Bob Varone, W4ETN (770) 978-3179</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 3 pm (Except December) Auburn City Hall Council Room 1369 Fourth Avenue Auburn, GA Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 <i>(cont. next column)</i></p>	<p>We had an excellent exam session Sunday April 9th. 5 out of 5 applicants passed.</p> <p>Ham exam session results: - 3 upgraded to General - 2 upgraded to Extra</p> <p>Thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dave Bruse, W4DTR (CVE) - Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE) - Bob Pursley, WD4KQQ - Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC - Mitch Matteau, N0DIM - Steve Back, WB2OGY - Don Bagby, KK4NJM (Co-CVE) - Frank Haynes, KV4SP - Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN - Jim Webb, W4NTA - Bill Douglas, WB4WHD - Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC (Co-CVE) <p>Thanks & 73, <i>Dave Bruse</i>, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>GARS VE Website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARS_VE_Team/</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See www.w4aql.com Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 acarver@ece.gatech.edu</p>	<p>First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p>First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-) For more, go to: http://www.gars.org/</p>

HF NETS—Brief List

<http://ac6v.com/nets.htm>
http://www.n1yz.com/HFNET_LIST.HTM
<https://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/15433>
<http://www.smeter.net/stations/hf-amateur-radio-nets.php>
http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/Nets/
<http://ve5brc.amateur-radio.ca/net.htm>
<http://www.noontimenet.org/>
<http://www.hhhnet.net/>
<http://www.3905ccn.com/newsite/overops.htm>
<http://www.hamuniverse.com/1721.html>
<http://southcars.com/main/>
<http://www.gnarc.net/daily-40-meter-net/>
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The GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

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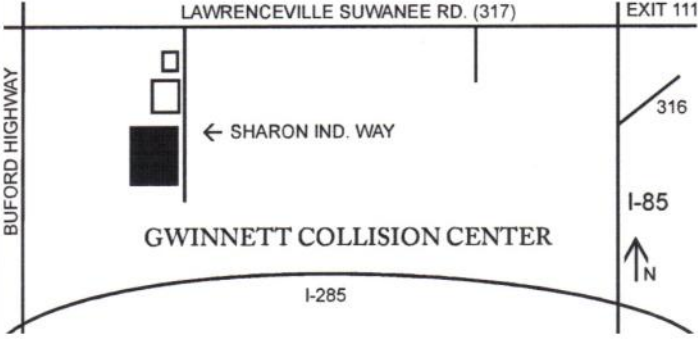


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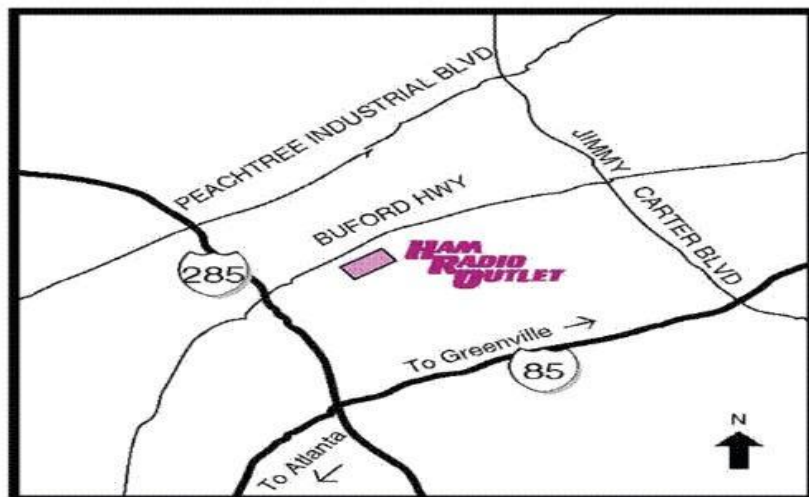
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